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CLASSIFICATION

Approved For Release 2000/08/17 : CIA-RDP82-00457R004100

02-A-0404
FWD
376

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR 16 JAN 50

SUBJECT Soviet Troops Dispositions in Poland

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1A

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1A

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25

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SOURCE

1. During recent months the following tendencies in Soviet troop concentrations in Poland

- a. Soviet troops are now being concentrated in fewer areas, but the number of units and troops at each location is being increased considerably.
- b. The troop encampments have been removed from areas of principal highways and railroads, and a definite effort is being made to isolate them from the Polish population.
- c. Travel east of the Vistula has become increasingly difficult. This area is practically forbidden to foreigners, and Poles from other parts of Poland have much difficulty in procuring a permit to enter this area.

2. In the vicinity of Pila (Schneidemühl), west of Bydgoszcz (Bromberg), the following Soviet troops

a. Two infantry regiments and one artillery regiment were quartered in the city of Pila proper.

b. About 3 km. north of Pila and west of Koschütz the Soviet Air Force is maintaining a former German air base. This base is now described as large, modernized, and in very good condition. At the time of observation about 80 two-engine bombers and 120 fighter planes were stationed at the field. Circulating rumors indicate that the runways of the field are to be lengthened to accommodate heavy bombers or jet planes.

c. About 30 km. north of Pila, at Jastrowo (Jastrow), there is a well-built military camp which, according to estimates, can comfortably house 20,000 troops. At the present time about 20,000 Soviet troops are quartered here, including 3 motorized infantry regiments, 2 motorized artillery regiments, 1 anti-aircraft group consisting of approximately 60 guns of 85-mm. caliber, 1 armored group with approximately 150 tanks, plus engineer troops, signal units, quartermaster units, etc.

d. Further along the rail line to the northwest of Jastrowo at Sypniewo (Zippov), several smaller encampments of infantry and artillery units have been observed.

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Ne: Review Date: 2008

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class.

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Class. CHANGE TO: TS

Declassify on: 4 Apr 77

Declassify on: 17/12/83

Declassify on: 1 JUN 1978 By: 2

Approved For Release 2000/08/17 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00410030004-0

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